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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1998.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/492,632
Filing Date	January 27, 2000
First Named Inventor	E. M. Hamann
Group Art Unit	2131
Examiner Name	Ahmedur Ali
Attorney Docket Number	GE998-005

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 85 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 18, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14885 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

- The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0510
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Anne Vachon Dougherty	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	30 374
Signature	<i>Anne Vachon Dougherty</i>	Date	August 30, 2004

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: EXPRESS MAIL! ED 213541392 US

Name (Print/Type)	Anne Vachon Dougherty
Signature	<i>Anne Vachon Dougherty</i>
Date	August 30, 2004

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HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
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ON DATE OF DEPOSIT: August 30, 2004  
PERSON DEPOSITING: ANNE VACHON DOUGHERTY

Anne Vachon Dougherty 8/30/04  
Signature & Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of : August 30, 2004  
E.M. Hamann, et al : Group Art No.: 2131  
Serial No. 09/492,632 : Examiner: Ahmedur Ali  
Filed: January 27, 2000 : for IBM Corporation  
Title: DIGITAL SIGNATURE : Anne Vachon Dougherty  
3173 Cedar Road  
Yorktown Hts, NY 10598

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 29, 2004 for the above-identified patent application, Applicants submit a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), a Petition for Extension of Time with fee, and the following:

**Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** which begin on page 8.